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TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJ: NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL ON ITALY; PRESS REPORTS OF SIMON'S EUROPEAN INTERVIEW; CARLI FAVORABLE TO SOMMUNISTS IN GOVERNMENT

TREASURY PASS LUXOR FOR RHATICAN WITH SIMON PARTY

1.PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAN IN ROME, SECRETARY SIMON MAY WISH TO REVIEW LEAD EDITORIAL WHICH APPEARED IN NEW YORK TIMES MARCH 2 ENTITLED, "SAVING ITALY...OR SINKING IT?" (EDITORIAL WAS REPEATED IN PARIS HERALD TRIBUNE OF MARCH 3 AND ALSO TRIGGERED COMMENTS IN ITALIAN PRESS MARCH 3. REPORT CONCERN SUCH MATTERS AS LIRA EXCHANGE CRISIS, ITALIAN ECONOMIC RECESSION, FOREIGN CREDITS TO ITALY, AND PROSPECTS FOR COMMUNIST ENTRY INTO GOVERNMENT. EMBASSY CAN MAKE COPY OF EDITORIAL AVAILABLE TO SIMON PARTY ON ARRIVAL, IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY SEEN IT.

2. ITALIAN PRESS MARCH 3 ALSO PICKS UP AND EXCERPTS PARTS OF SECRETARY'S INTERVIEW WITH EUROPEO, MENTIONING FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ROME, DIFFICULT ITALIAN ECONOMIC SITUATION, SIMON'S PRAISE OF FORMER BANK OF ITALY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNOR CARLI AND ASSURANCE OF US COLLABORATION DURING

PRESENT DIFFICULTIES. EMBASSY PREPARING TRANSLATION OF EUROPEO INTERVIEW, WHICH WE WILL MAKE AVAILABLE ON ARRIVAL.

3. SECRETARY SHOULD BE AWARE OF FEBRUARY 22 INTERVIEW WITH FORMER BANK OF ITALY GOVERNOR CARLI IN LONDON OBSERVER IN WHICH CARLI IS REPORTED AS DESCRIBING COMMUNISTS AS FORCE FOR STABILITY IN ITALY AND URGES THEIR RECRUITMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNING STRUCTURE. (COPY OF ARTICLE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON ARRIVAL.) VOLPE

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